

12.180 USE OF CRISIS NEGOTIATIONS TEAM

Reference:

Procedure 12.110 – Handling Mentally Ill Individuals and Potential Suicides
Procedure 12.175 – Use of Special Weapons and Tactics Unit
Standards Manual - 33.6.2, 46.1.4

Policy:

In a hostage, barricade, threatened suicide, or other applicable situation, a crisis negotiations team will respond and attempt to resolve the situation by utilizing the skills of trained police negotiators.

Procedure:

A. Duties and Responsibilities:

1. Refer to Procedure 12.175, Section A.
2. Should the crisis negotiations team be utilized without the Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team, the team leader will assume the responsibility of supervising the tactical aspects of the operation.

B. When to Utilize the Crisis Negotiations Team:

1. A negotiations team will respond during the event of a SWAT call-up (Refer to Procedure 12.175).
2. A supervisor may request a negotiations team respond when he determines their services would be useful or upon recommendation of a Mental Health Response Team officer, in resolving a passive category situation that has not yet reached the criteria for utilizing SWAT. Some examples of these type situations are:
 - a. A person threatening suicide without the use of an offensive weapon, such as a gun or knife (Bridge jumpers, overdose of pills, etc.).
 - b. A barricade situation in which the person is unarmed and poses no serious physical threat.
 - c. Any situation which could be peacefully resolved through the use of trained police negotiators. Remember, the safety of police and innocent persons is the highest priority in dealing with this type of situation.
3. Activation
 - a. The district supervisor will contact Police Communications Section (PCS) to request a call-up of the crisis negotiations team. Do not request a single negotiator; a team will respond during the event of a call-up.

- b. PCS will contact the SWAT Commander for approval. The SWAT Commander will direct a limited call-up of SWAT personnel to support the negotiations team.

C. Post Action Reports:

- 1. The requesting supervisor will submit a Form 17 Incident Report and route to the following:
 - a. Police Chief
 - b. Patrol Bureau Commander
 - c. District of occurrence
- 2. The crisis negotiations team leader will submit the proper reports to the Police Chief.

D. Equipment and Inventory:

- 1. The crisis negotiations team leader, or his designee will inventory and inspect negotiations team equipment after each training session and call-up.

E. Recall Roster:

- 1. Crisis negotiations team members will immediately notify the team leader of any change of address or phone number.
- 2. The team leader will provide an updated personnel recall roster to PCS following any changes.